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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590

01/26/2007

Linda K. Russell Air Liquide Suite 1800 2700 Post Oak Blvd. Houston, TX 77056 EXAMINER

SHAW, CLIFFORD C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1725

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2007

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKÉT NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/630.241 | 07/30/2003 | Roger Blot | SERIE 5856 | 0384 |

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE PRODUCTIVITY OF A WELDING SHOP

| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE DUE | PUBLICATION FEE DUE | PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1400 | \$300 | \$0 | \$1700 | 04/26/2007 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

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- A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.
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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or
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- II. PART B FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE

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| | 7590 01/26 | 5/2007 | have | | of mailing or transmission. tificate of Mailing or Trans | mission | |
| Linda K. Russe | ell | | I he | reby certify that thi | s Fee(s) Transmittal is being | deposited with the United | |
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| _ | ` | · | | | | (Date) | |
| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | |
| 10/630,241 | 07/30/2003 | | Roger Blot | | SERIE 5856 | 9384 | |
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| | ondence address (or Cha 3/122) attached. | inge of Correspondence | (1) the names of up to or agents OR, alternative | ely, | · | | |
| | ication (or "Fee Address | | (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to | | | | |
| PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-0 Number is required. | 2 or more recent) attach | ned. Use of a Customer | 2 registered patent attor listed, no name will be | meys or agents. It r | no name is 3 | | |
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| PLEASE NOTE: Unl | ess an assignee is identi | ified below, no assignee | data will appear on the pa T a substitute for filing an a | tent. If an assigne | ee is identified below, the de | ocument has been filed for | |
| (A) NAME OF ASSIC | | , | (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY | - | OUNTRY) | | |
| () | | | (2) 12312211021 (0111 | | | | |
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| lease check the appropri | iate assignee category or | categories (will not be pr | inted on the patent): | Individual Co | rporation or other private gro | oup entity Government | |
| a. The following fee(s) a | are submitted: | 4t | o. Payment of Fee(s): (Plea | se first reapply an | y previously paid issue fee s | shown above) | |
| ☐ Issue Fee | | | A check is enclosed. | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | , providuos, para issae ice. | , | |
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| | s SMALL ENTITY statu | | h Applicant is no lone | er claiming SMAI | L ENTITY status. See 37 CF | TP 1 27(a)(2) | |
| | | | | | tered attorney or agent; or th | | |
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| Authorized Signature | | | | Date | | | |
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| his collection of information application. Confident | ation is required by 37 C | FR 1.311. The informatio | on is required to obtain or re | etain a benefit by th | e public which is to file (and | by the USPTO to process) | |

an application. Confidentially is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. Inis collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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| Linda K. Russell | | | SHAW, CL | IFFORD C | | |
| Air Liquide | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| Suite 1800 2700 Post Oak Blvo Houston, TX 77056 | | | 1725 DATE MAILED: 01/26/200' | 7 | | |

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 73 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 73 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.